Pollution around Bombay

923. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the sea in and around Bombay is quite polluted because of various factors including the operation of ships; and

(b) if so, what are details of various steps being taken by the Government to prevent sea pollution in and around Bombay as well as at other ports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Certain studies have revealed that harbour waters in Bombay Port Trust are polluted from the view point of sanitary quality and marine life.

(b) Under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 fines can be imposed upto Rs. 5 lakhs for pollution offences and the ports have been empowered *vide* Notification dated 3-10-1986 to exercie these powers. Fine upto Rs. 500 can be levied on vessels causing pollution under the Indian Ports Act, 1908.

Some of the other measures being adopted in Major Ports in India are :—

(i) Creation of pollution control cells.

(ii) Inspection of ships and water front areas to ensure that the ships do not create pollution.

(iii) The ships are required to comply with MARPOL Regulations.

(iv) Emission of smoke from the funnel and the accumulation of garbage on the boards is checked.

(v) In case of pollution, oil barriers, oil booms, oil skimmers etc. are deployed; and

(vi) Prohibition of discharge of oil and objectionable liquids into dock is enforced.

Extension of the Aviation Services in the country

924. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going ahead with massive expansion of the Aviation Services in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the names of the cities/towns to be linked by the air services by 1990 and 1995, the number and types of aircraft/helicopters to be purchased, types of services to be introduced, efforts to be made to recruit and train the necessary manpower, including pilots and any production facilities to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) and (b) It may be difficult to affirm that the Government is going ahead with a massive expansion of the Civil Aviation Services in the country. As against the average annual growth of 10 per cent registered by domestic air traffic and 12.4 per cent achieved by Air-India during the period 1960-85, the VII Plan Document provides for the growth at a modest rate of 8 per cent and 4 per cent respectively.

Aid-India will induct 2 Boeing 747 Combi aircraft into its fleet during 1988 and Indian Airlines has placed an order for 19 A-320 Airbus aircraft scheduled for deliveries in 1989-90. Vayudoot also proposes to buy more aircraft. With a view to meeting the requirements of pilots Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Academi has been set up. Setting up of production facilities is not envisaged at this stage.

Since the Civil Aviation Sector is investment intensive and since the expansion activities especially those related to